

Inside the Inlet

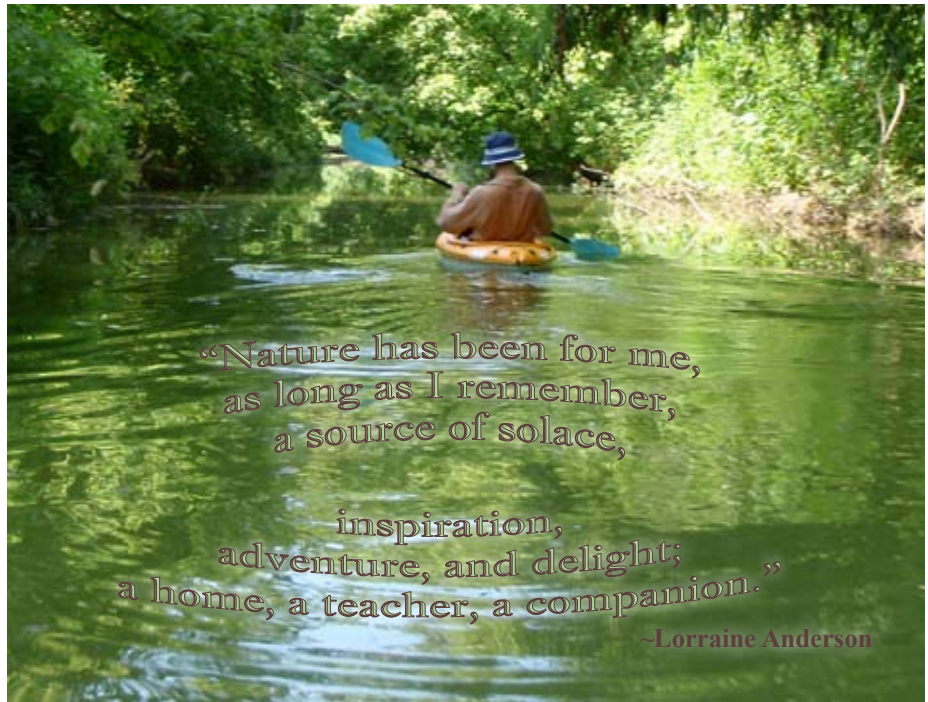


Upper Five Mile Creek Watershed Study

A watershed is the land area that surrounds and drains into a creek, river, or lake. Dallas has 38 sub-watersheds. Stormwater Management (SWM) is conducting a study in the Upper Five Mile Creek Sub-watershed (UFIV) in south-east Dallas that will implement a community-based social marketing (CBSM) campaign. The study is a collaborative effort between SWM's Water Quality and Outreach Teams.

The study began in March 2008 and will continue for three years. During the first year of the study, water quality data was collected at six monitoring sites on a monthly basis. The monitoring sites are located on Crow Creek, Woody Creek, Rickett's Branch, and three sites on Five Mile Creek.

Continued on page 3



A kayak trip down White Rock Creek (Photo: Richard Smart, SWM)

Barriers and Benefits

Stormwater Management invites you to take part in an exciting endeavor to identify the perceived barriers and benefits that people who live and/or work in Dallas have about proper yard waste disposal and car washing.

We want to know why people choose one action versus another. Are people driven to do the right thing out of concern for our environment, to stay in compliance

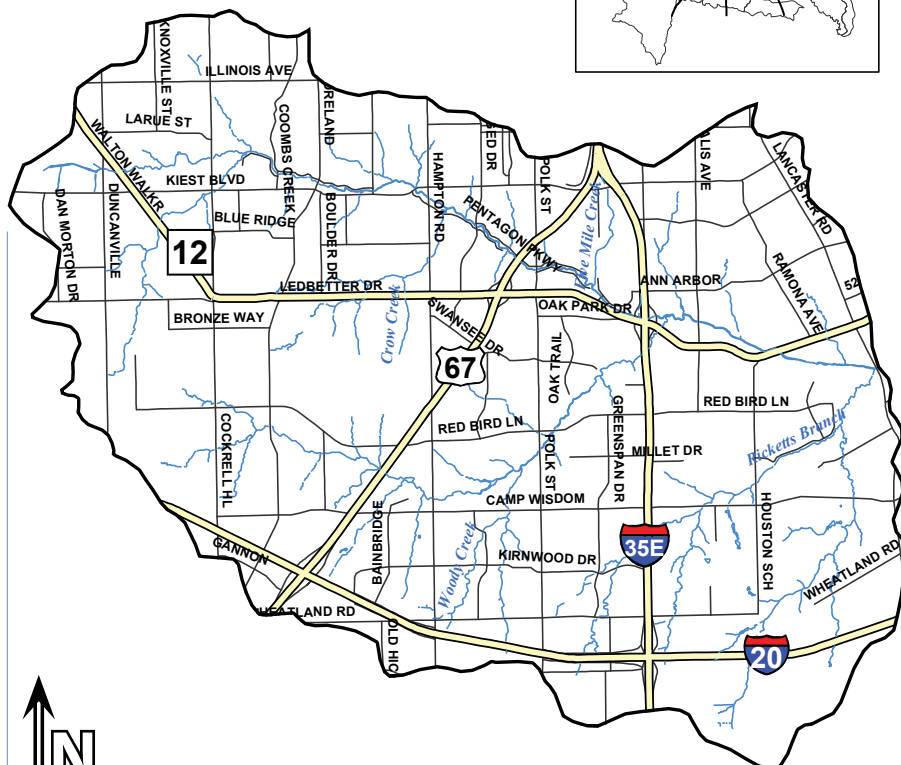
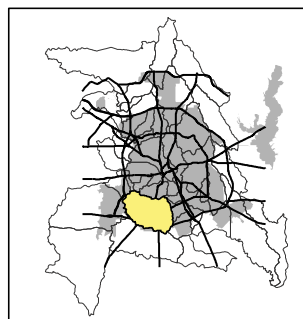
Continued on page 2

In This Issue:

- Upper Five Mile Creek - Pg. 1
- Barriers and Benefits - Pg. 1
- Behind the Outreach Team - Pg.2

In Every Issue:

- Tips & Drips - Pg. 2
- Upcoming Events - Pg. 2
- Ask Trinity Trudy - Pg. 3
- Just For Kids - Pg. 3
- Meet a Member... - Pg. 4



Upper Five Mile Creek Sub-watershed Map

Tips & Drops

Upcoming Events

May

2 19th Annual Asian Festival at Dallas City Hall

28 TPDES* Industrial Workshop at Dallas City Hall
www.wheredoesitgo.com/business-industries.html

30 Farm & Flower Festival at Dallas Farmers Market at Dallas Farmers Market
www.dallascityhall.com/convention_center/farmers_market_events.html

June

6 13th Annual Water-Wise Landscape Tour City of Dallas, Water Utilities
www.savedallaswater.com

13-14 18th Annual Tour of Ponds North Texas Water Garden Society
www.ntwgs.org/pondTour.html

11 TPDES* Achieving Compliance Construction Workshop at Dallas City Hall
www.wheredoesitgo.com/business-construction.html

20 Juneteenth Celebration at the Singing Hills Recreation Center

28-30 Southwest Foodservice Expo 2009 at the Dallas Convention Center
www.swfoodexpo.com

July

1-31 Smart Irrigation Month
www.irrigation.org

**Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System*

For more information email stormwater@dallascityhall.com or call 214-948-4022, and ask to speak with an Environmental Coordinator.

For more information about our industrial and construction workshops and their schedules go to www.wheredoesitgo.com and click on the 'For Business' link.

Summer and Vehicles

As you drive your vehicle this summer, Stormwater Management offers some tips that will help you prevent pollution from harming our environment.

Use a commercial car wash: Washing your car in your driveway sends soapy water into local creeks, lakes, and the Trinity River. Washing your car or truck at a commercial car wash prevents water pollution since the soapy water from these places is either treated at a waste water treatment plant, or is recycled on site.

Check for leaks: Get in the habit of looking underneath your vehicle before driving off to your destination. If your vehicle is leaking oil or other automotive fluids then take it to a mechanic to be serviced. If you cannot get your vehicle serviced right away, then put a drip pan underneath your vehicle while it is parked so that any automotive fluids will not leak onto your driveway or street.

Fill up carefully: When the pump automatically shuts off, leave the nozzle in your vehicle for five extra seconds. This will help make sure that any drops of gasoline go into your vehicle and do not drip onto your vehicle or on the pavement.

Minimize idling time: Having air conditioning in a vehicle is a wonderful thing to have during a hot Dallas summer; however, idling in your vehicle does cause air pollution. By limiting idle time to five minutes you will save gas and help keep our air clean. Look for more facts and suggestions at our website www.wheredoesitgo.com

Barriers...

Continued from page 1

with city code, or some other benefit? On the flipside some people choose to do an action that pollutes our stormwater. Do they choose those actions because they are not informed, because they think it is more convenient, or because they do not care about our local bodies of water?



Answers to these questions will be generated by people taking surveys. Surveys will be distributed at the Stormwater Management booth at multiple community events, and people may take the surveys on our website, www.wheredoesitgo.com.

Information collected through these surveys will be used to tailor our messages so we can address the perceived barriers and benefits to yard waste disposal and car washing. Once we know why people perform certain actions our outreach efforts will be more effective and will certainly produce significant results.

VOLUNTEER WITH US!

Call the Outreach Team at 214-948-4022, or e-mail us at stormwater@dallascityhall.com.



Watershed Study...

Continued from page 1

Water quality monitoring will continue to be collected monthly at the six monitoring sites for all three years.

Q: Why is it OK to place cow manure on my yard, but not OK to leave my dog's poop on the ground? – Alison Behr, Dallas

A: There are two parts in the answer to your question: nutrients in cow manure versus dog waste, and city code regarding animal waste.

Cows are herbivores, and that means they eat plants. Plants have high levels of nutrients in them, so the waste that cows produce also contains high levels of nutrients.

Dogs are carnivores, and that means they eat meat. While some dog food does contain vegetables, dog waste still has low levels of nutrients. So, leaving your dog's waste on the yard will not help your grass, flowers, or trees grow.

City code states that animal waste that does not contain essential plant nutrients is considered a pollutant and needs to be disposed of in a sanitary manner. While picking up after your dog may not be fun, it will help keep pollution out of local creeks, lakes, and the Trinity River.

If you ever decide to use manure on your lawn, the Texas A&M Agrilife Extension recommends using dairy manure compost. Please visit <http://compost.tamu.edu/index.php> to read more about dairy manure compost, including a fact sheet about using dairy manure compost in urban environments.

Questions for Trinity Trudy? Email her at stormwater@dallascityhall.com, then look for her responses in future issues.

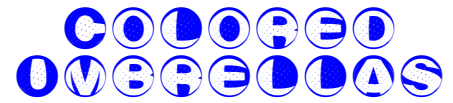
Now that the first year of water quality data have been collected, the Outreach Team is working on its CBSM campaign which will be completed in the second year of the study. Surfactants were identified as contributing to water quality issues in UFIV, and will be the focus of the campaign.

Surfactants are found in industrial and household soap and detergent formulas. When dissolved in water, surfactants give soap the ability to remove dirt from surfaces. Surfactants were not expected to be detected at any significant level since they are a result from human activities. However, surfactants were detected in samples from all six sites. Surfactants negatively impact surface waters. High levels of surfactants increase fish mortality by attaching to the gills and impairing gill function.

The Outreach Team will work at the community level by establishing an audience of UFIV residents. Through feedback from this focus group, a specific behavior that will decrease surfactant levels in UFIV will be identified, along with barriers and benefits of the behavior. Once the CBSM campaign has been completed, the effectiveness will be determined in part by participation of the target audience and by comparing surfactant levels pre and post outreach activities.

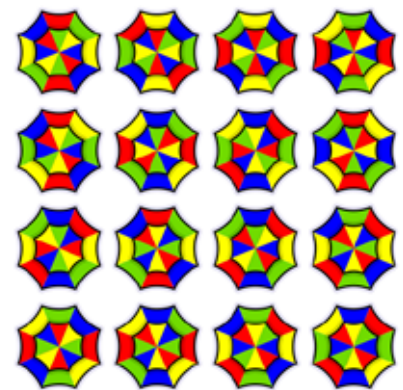
Please visit the following link to read a more detailed article in Texas WET January 2009 on the UFIV Study: <http://www.wet.org/wet.htm>.

**J U S T
F O R
K I D S**



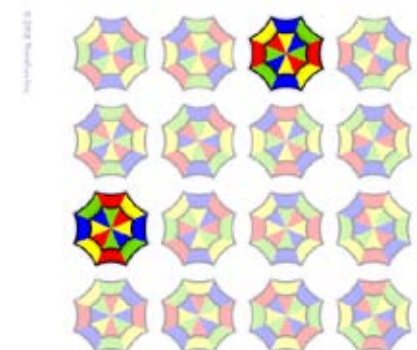
Can you find two identical umbrellas among those sixteen shown in the illustration? The umbrellas can be rotated but not mirrored.

This puzzle was created by Peter Grabarchuk, and may be found at www.puzzles.com along with many other great puzzles!



The solution appears upside down below. No peeking!!

Solution:
The umbrella found on the second row from the top; the umbrella found on the furthest on the right, and the umbrella found on the bottom row; second from the left are identical.



**TO REPORT
POLLUTERS CALL
3-1-1!**

*FYI for our readers:
If you wish to be added or deleted from
distribution, contact us at [stormwater@
dallascityhall.com](mailto:stormwater@dallascityhall.com)*



Affix Address Label Here

Public Works and Transportation
Stormwater Management
320 E. Jefferson Blvd., Room 108
Dallas, Texas 75203

Meet a Member of Stormwater Management

Vickie Henry joined Stormwater Management (SWM) a year ago and she is a Manager on the Program Support Team. Vickie prepares monthly performance measure reports, oversees Record Management and Open Records,



monitors funding for stormwater funded capital improvement projects and the Customer Request Management System, assists with Annual Budget Development, monthly Financial Target Analyses, and Human Resources tasks. Additionally, she coordinates the development of the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Annual Report. While fulfilling her duties for SWM, Vickie likes meeting and interacting with people from all different City of Dallas departments. Outside of work, she enjoys spending time with her boyfriend and family. Some of her leisure time is spent caring for her eight dogs and five horses.

Rick Galceran, P.E.
Director
Public Works and Transportation

Errick Thompson, P.E.
Assistant Director
Public Works and Transportation

Susan Alvarez, P.E.
Senior Program Manager

Vacant
Outreach Manager

Jeff Murriel, R.E.M.
Compliance Assurance Manager

Elizabeth Turner, R.E.M.
Water Quality/Enforcement Manager

LaVerna Mitchell
Program Support Manager

If you would like us to make a presentation to your organization about stormwater pollution prevention or permitting requirements, contact our Outreach Team at (214) 948-4022, or e-mail us at stormwater@dallascityhall.com